to the Government. Crop yields are influenced by a large number of factors like input use, irrigation/rainfall, farm management practices and weather conditions etc.

The Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 provides that only such fertilizer which meets the quality standards as laid down in the Order is sold to the farmers. Similarly, the quality and sale of pesticides and insecticides are regulated under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The State/UT Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 and Insecticide Act, 1968. The State Government have set up testing laboratories and also inspection agencies to check up the quality of these inputs from time to time.

New Agriculture Policy

1266. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's new agriculture policy has so far been formulated/approved by Union Cabinet;

(b) if so, what are its salient features and by when it is likely to be placed before Parliament;

(c) whether Government's new policy also aims at developing India's export potential in agriculture as well as forty per cent growth in farm output, by improving post harvest technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) National Agriculture Policy has been placed on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2000.

Financial Assistance Sought by Orissa

1267. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the drainage problem in Orissa due to flood and heavy rain in coastal Orissa and particularly in Bhadrak and Balasore districts;